North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

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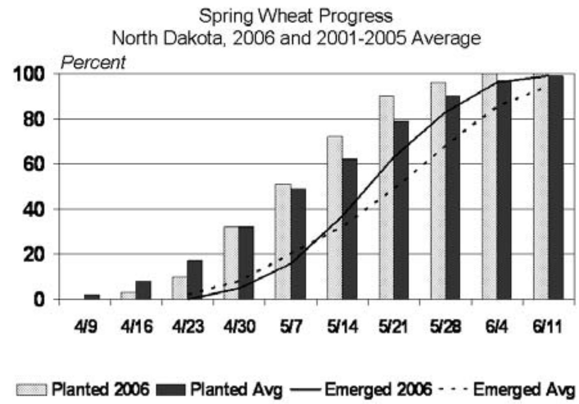
CROP WEATHER

North Dakota
March began with dry conditions and slightly below normal temperatures. Early April brought above average temperatures coupled with precipitation, causing flooding of fields and rivers, especially in the eastern districts. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork was April 17, three days later than last year. Planting began behind the five-year (2001-2005) average for all crops except oats. By May 21, progress for all crops had advanced to ahead of average. Dry conditions and near to above normal temperatures throughout May and June accelerated crop growth across the state.

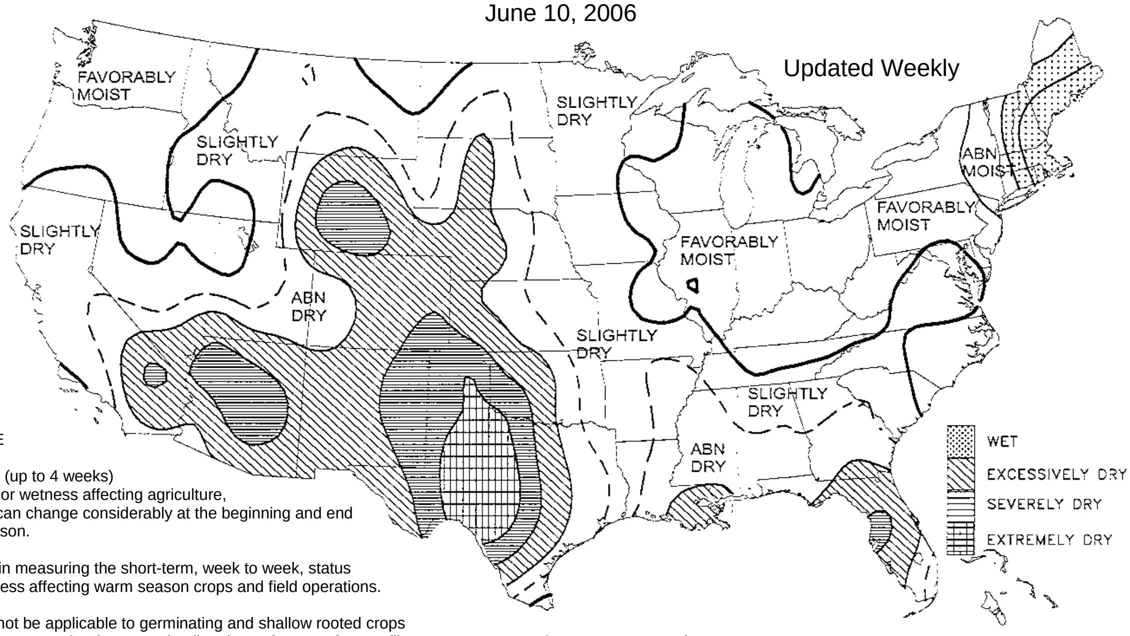


By the end of May, small grain emergence was well ahead of the five-year average pace. Spring wheat was 83 percent emerged by May 28, compared with 68 percent on average. By June 11, small grain emergence neared completion, ahead of last year and average, while development was about a week ahead of normal. Emergence of all other crops was also ahead of last year and average. Favorable temperatures across the state during June allowed crops to develop rapidly, ahead of last year and average.

All crops except oats were rated mostly good to excellent through the middle of June. In most areas of the state, pasture and range conditions declined due to depleted soil moisture supplies. Pastures and ranges were rated 39 percent good to excellent on June 18, compared with 74 percent a year earlier.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 70 percent adequate and 19 percent surplus in early April, but declined to 60 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus by mid-June. Wet, wintry weather during the third week of April halted fieldwork in the western districts, while varied amounts of precipitation were received throughout the state. Dry conditions have prevailed through most of June.

CROP MOISTURE
Short Term, Crop Need vs. Available Water in 5-ft. Soil Profile
June 10, 2006



CROP MOISTURE

Depicts short-term (up to 4 weeks) abnormal dryness or wetness affecting agriculture, responds rapidly, can change considerably at the beginning and end of the growing season.

Uses…applicable in measuring the short-term, week to week, status of dryness or wetness affecting warm season crops and field operations.

Limitations…may not be applicable to germinating and shallow rooted crops which are unable to extract the deep or subsoil moisture from a 5-foot profile, or for cool season crops growing when temperatures are averaging below about 55F. It is not generally indicative of the long-term (months, years) drought or wet spells which are depicted by the drought severity index.

Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

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701-239-5306 ▪ E-mail: nass-nd@nass.usda.gov ▪ Internet: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/North_Dakota/

WORLD AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY & DEMAND ESTIMATES

Wheat: The 2006/07 U.S. wheat crop is lowered 59 million bushels from last month, based on lower forecast yield of winter wheat. Projected spring wheat production is unchanged. Imports are raised 5 million bushels. Wheat feed and residual use is lowered 25 million bushels, and seed use is raised 2 million. Ending stocks are lowered 32 million bushels to 416 million. The 2006/07 price range is increased 10 cents on both ends of the range to $3.60 to $4.20 per bushel, compared with an estimated $3.42 for 2005/06.

The 2006/07 global wheat outlook includes little change in total supply and use, compared with last month. Higher production in Ukraine, Pakistan, Canada, EU-25, and several other countries is offset by lower production in the United States, Argentina, Russia, and other countries. Exports from Pakistan and Ukraine are raised a combined 1 million tons, while Argentine exports are lowered 1 million. Global ending stocks remain the lowest in 25 years.

Coarse Grains: The 2006/07 U.S. outlook for coarse grains includes projected lower beginning stocks, no change in use, and no change in the price range of $2.25 to $2.65 per bushel, compared with last month.

For 2005/06, exports are increased 50 million bushels, based on the recent rapid pace of shipments and sales, and ending stocks are lowered by that amount. The old crop price range of $1.90 to $2.10 per bushel is unchanged.

The 2006/07 global coarse grains outlook includes higher production and exports and little change in ending stocks compared with last month. The major highlight is an increase in China's corn production at 138 million tons, up 3 million from last month and slightly below the revised 2005/06 crop. China's 2005/06 corn production is raised 5.4 million tons to 139.4 million tons based on a recent report by China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

While the NBS only reported total grain area, other information from China indicates the corn area was larger than USDA's estimate. With last year's corn area increased and indications that this year's corn area is up from 2005/06, projected 2006/07 corn area is raised from last month. China's domestic use is increased for both years. Despite larger crops, China's domestic prices have strengthened and stocks, while forecast slightly higher than last month, will continue to tighten in 2006/07. In addition, China's 2005/06 export estimate is lowered 1 million tons this month, based on a lack of export sales.

World barley production is projected higher this month, mainly due to higher production in Russia more than offsetting smaller crops in Morocco and Tunisia.

Oilseeds: U.S. oilseed supply and use prospects for 2006/07 are fractionally higher this month, mostly reflecting a small increase in soybean beginning stocks. Soybean production is projected at 3,080 billion bushels, unchanged from last month. Soybean stocks are projected at a record 655 million bushels, up 5 million from last month and up 85 million from 2005/06.

The U.S. season average soybean price for 2006/07 is unchanged at $5.10 to $6.10 per bushel, compared with a projected $5.65 per bushel in 2005/06. Soybean meal prices for 2006/07 are projected at $155 to $185 per short ton and soybean oil prices are projected at 22.5 to 26.5 cents per pound, both unchanged from last month.

Changes for 2005/06 include a 5 million bushel reduction in soybean crush reflecting lower than expected domestic soybean meal use in recent months. Increased soybean meal exports partly offset reduced domestic use. Soybean oil production, exports, and domestic use are all reduced this month, leaving soybean oil stocks fractionally lower. Soybean ending stocks are increased 5 million bushels to 570 million bushels. Soybean oil prices for 2005/06 are projected at 23.25 cents per pound, up 0.25 cents.

Global oilseed production for 2006/07 is projected at 389.4 million tons, down 0.7 million tons from 2005/06 and down 0.6 million tons from last month. Foreign oilseed production is projected at 294.7 million tons, up 0.8 million tons from 2005/06. Global soybean production is projected to increase 1.9 million tons to a record 222 million tons. Higher yields in Brazil and increased area for Argentina will help push South American production to a record 105 million tons, up 3 million from 2005/06. The Brazilian crop is projected at 56 million tons, up only slightly from a revised estimate of 55.7 million tons for 2005/06 as higher yields mostly offset reduced harvested area. Argentina soybean production is projected at a record 41.3 million tons due to increased area. Global production of high oil content seed is down 4 percent due to lower rapeseed and sunflowerseed production. Rapeseed production is projected lower for Canada and India, and production for EU-25 and China are projected almost unchanged from 2005/06. Sunflowerseed production is lower for 2006/07 mainly due to reduced crop prospects for Russia and Ukraine.

Global protein meal consumption is projected to increase 4 percent in 2006/07 mainly due to gains for soybean meal. Protein meal consumption is projected to increase 7 percent for China, which accounts for 40 percent of the increase in global protein consumption. World soybean trade is projected to reach a record 71 million tons, up 7 percent from 2005/06. China accounts for most of the increase in global trade with imports expanding 4 million tons to 31.5 million tons. Global vegetable oil consumption is projected to rise 5 percent led by increases for EU-25, China, and India. Increased consumption in EU-25 is primarily due to increased industrial use of rapeseed and palm oil as biodiesel production continues to expand. Global vegetable oil ending stocks are projected to decrease 9 percent from 2005/06.

Source: *WASDE*, USDA-WAOB, June 9, 2006

2006 PROJECT SAFE SEND

North Dakota

A healthy environment is something we North Dakotans take for granted. Keeping our air and water clean and pure, however, requires commitment and can be costly. For years, farmers and ranchers have done their part by safely storing unusable pesticides like DDT and mercury seed treatments.

Project Safe Send was started in 1992 to help farmers safely and legally dispose of unusable pesticides. Since then, nearly 5,000 people have brought in almost 1.8 million pounds of pesticides. That's a lot! With the support of pesticide manufacturers, we have the funds to help get rid of more. We can accept any pesticides (this includes herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides and fungicides) that are old, unusable or banned like DDT, arsenic, dieldrin, chlordane or mercury seed treatments.

Sixteen sites have been selected for the 2006 Project Safe Send collection of unusable pesticides, scheduled for July 11-25.

"This is a good time for anyone with pesticides -- farmers, ranchers, chemical dealers and applicators, government agencies and homeowners -- to take stock of their inventory and set aside unusable pesticides for disposal," said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson. "With 16 collection sites, no one will have to drive far to get rid of their waste pesticides safely, efficiently and at no charge."

Persons with more than 5,000 pounds of pesticides should call (701) 328-4997 to pre-register. No other pre-registration is required.

Pesticide rinse water will also be accepted at any of the 16 collection sites. The first 100 pounds of rinse water will be taken free of charge; a fee of $1 per pound will be charged for each additional pound.

Project Safe Send is funded through the fees paid by pesticide manufacturers to register their products in North Dakota.

All collections will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. local time at ND Department of Transportation (DOT) facilities unless otherwise noted.

- **July 11 - West Fargo County Highway Dept. Shop** - 1201 W Main Avenue, West Fargo; south side of Main Avenue, ¼ mile east of Red River Valley Fairgrounds.
- **July 12 - West Fargo County Highway Dept. Shop** (see above directions).
- **July 13 - Mayville DOT** - from the junction of Highway 18 and ND 200, go 2 miles south to the edge of town (right hand side of the road).
- **July 14 - Drayton DOT** - just east of I-29 interchange on ND Highway 66 (north side of the road).
- **July 17 - Courtenay DOT** - ½ mile north of Courtenay on Highway #20.
- **July 17 - Minot DOT** - from the intersection of Highways 83 and 2, go east about 3 miles, DOT is on the east side of Hwy 2, just north of the Gooseneck Implement (John Deere dealership).
- **July 18 - Minot DOT** (see above directions)
- **July 18 - Langdon DOT** - one mile west of Langdon on ND Highway 5 (south side).
- **July 19 - Bottineau DOT** - ½ mile east of Bottineau on Highway 5, 1½ miles north on Lake Metigoshe Road (east side of the road).
- **July 19 - Tioga** - city shop area, 316 NE 1st Street.
- **July 20 - Rugby DOT** - 1 mile east of the Jct of US 2 and ND 3, north 1 mile, east ¼ mile.
- **July 20 - Killdeer DOT** - Northeast of Junction 22 and 200.
- **July 21 - Linton DOT** - 820 Hwy 13 East, from Linton, go 1 mile East on Hwy 13 (south side of highway).
- **July 21 - Belfield DOT** - Take I-94 to exit 42, then go 1/2 mile south on US #85, just left of US # 85.
- **July 24 - Edgeley DOT** - 2 miles north of Jct. 281 & 13, west side of Hwy 281.
- **July 24 - Hettinger DOT** - 121 1st Street N; ¾ mile north of US Hwy 12 on the road to the airport.
- **July 25 - Wyndmere DOT** - from the junction of Highways 13 and 18, go 2 ½ miles north on Hwy. 18 (west side of road).
- **July 25 - Glen Ullin DOT** - 4110 County Road 88, ½ mile north of Glen Ullin on County Road 88 (east side of road).

Source: ND Department of Agriculture, March 6, 2006

POTATO STOCKS

North Dakota

Growers, dealers and processors held 1.30 million hundredweight (cwt) of potatoes in storage June 1, 2006, down 73 percent from a year ago and 74 percent from two years ago. This is the lowest level of June 1 potato stocks since records began in 1999. Current stocks represent 6 percent of production, down from 18 percent last year. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to June 1 totaled 19.2 million cwt, down from 22.0 million cwt a year ago and 22.4 million cwt two years ago. May disappearance totaled 1.50 million cwt, down from 2.40 million cwt a year ago and 3.30 million cwt two years ago.

United States

The 13 major potato states held 40.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2006, down 23 percent from last year and 13 percent below June 1, 2004, for comparable states. Potatoes in storage account for 11 percent of the 2005 fall storage states' production, down 2 percent from last year.

Potato disappearance, at 333 million cwt, is down 4 percent from last year for comparable states. Processors in the 9 major states have used 167 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 3 percent from a year ago and 4 percent below 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 33.8 million cwt of the total processing, down 12 percent from last year and 14 percent below the same date in 2004.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks
15 Major States and United States, June 1, 2005-2006

State	Crop of 2004		Crop of 2005	
	Production	Stocks June 1, 2005 1/	Production	Stocks June 1, 2006 1/
	1,000 Cwt	*1,000 Cwt*	*1,000 Cwt*	*1,000 Cwt*
North Dakota	26,765	4,800	20,500	1,300
California	3,648		3,240	260
Colorado	23,791	3,600	22,292	2,200
Idaho	131,970	24,000	116,975	17,500
Maine	19,065	2,900	15,736	2,700
Michigan	13,650		13,920	
Minnesota	18,920	3,500	17,630	2,000
Montana	3,551		3,434	
Nebraska	9,288		8,245	
New York	5,184		5,226	
Ohio 2/	1,080			
Oregon	19,775	2,100	22,023	2,500
Pennsylvania 2/	2,640			
Washington	93,810	8,000	95,480	9,000
Wisconsin	30,450	1,600	27,880	1,700
Other States		1,200		800
15 State Total 3/	403,587	51,700	372,581	39,960

1/ Missing stocks combined into Other States. 2/ Stocks estimates discontinued for the 2005 crop. 3/ 13 states for the 2005 crop.

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